

DRAGON MOSQUITO CONTROL INC.

APRIL 2020 UPDATE

Due to Covid-19, daily life has changed for everyone. Here at Dragon, we're focused on the health and well-being of our employees and customers in a new way. There are a number of measures taken to ensure we safely get through this new reality while continuing to effectively serve municipalities. We will continue to improve and adjust these procedures as we do our best to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines and adapt them to our work requirements.

The threat of mosquito-borne disease is still on the horizon for this summer. Our work is much the same as in years past but we now operate contact-free. We won't knock on doors or leave paperwork for homeowners after house calls. Residents are welcome to speak with the crew when you see them in the field but please maintain the recommended six-foot physical distance. We're happy to communicate with you by phone or email too.

After the NH State Special Permits were received and activated in April, Dragon crews began checking marshes, swamps, woodland pools and other wetlands for mosquito larval activity. When mosquito larvae are found, crews treat the water with a naturally occurring bacterium, *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti). Bti breaks down quickly in sunlight and will not harm people or their pets, animals, aquatic life, or other insects, including honeybees.

Longer days, daffodils, peepers and black flies outline our progression into spring. Black flies are out now and we know mosquitoes are soon to follow. April showers provided an abundance of mosquito habitat this year. Homeowners should be checking for and eliminating the places where mosquitoes may lay their eggs by emptying any containers that hold water such as buckets, wheel barrows, pool covers, tarps, toys, trash barrels, dog bowls and boats. Cleaning out clogged rain gutters or emptying your bird bath every few days will also make a difference. The CDC provides additional information at <https://www.cdc.gov/features/stopmosquitoes/>. Visit our website at www.dragonmosquito.com where you can read more about what we do or click on the link to follow us on Twitter or Facebook.

By Memorial Day, we'll see mosquitoes in greater numbers. Mosquitoes that hatch in the spring, while a nuisance, do not carry Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) or West Nile Virus. Some years, West Nile virus and EEE activity can be detected as early as July. The good news is that mosquitoes do not transmit Covid-19. We have included an information sheet to provide information about what makes Covid-19 different from the viruses that mosquitoes transmit. Whether it's Covid-19 or disease spread by mosquitoes, personal protection is always the best defense. We hope everyone stays safe.

Respectfully Submitted,
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